

past. In fact, if anything, this bill does several things which this body should very much want. First, it cuts back on NIFA authority to give bonds, to issue bonds. That cutback is done for the purpose of making sure that NIFA cannot issue bonds which would not receive federal tax exempt status. They have greater than that authority now, it cuts it back. Secondly, provides greater information for this body to be provided to this body, not only before the issues are made, but once the issues are made, to be sent to us. A third thing this bill does is to create a mechanism by which, in the event NIFA is to issue bonds, they will let the public know, in the form of a public impact statement, as to what the public purpose of the bond issue is for and why they are led to believe that this bond issue will meet that public purpose. The changes in this bill are for greater accountability, tighter scrutiny, and for better performance by NIFA. I don't doubt that there are ways, additional ways to improve the performance of NIFA and I look forward to Senator Schmit's language on another bill. But, if you were left with the impression that this bill was anything other than an improvement in our public policy, a tightening of the accountability standards for NIFA, that would be a mistake. The bill is an improvement in the state's position to monitor and have better oversight for the performance of NIFA than what we have now, and is timely, needs to be passed now. And in the event Senator Schmit does have some language on another bill, we should all look forward to that day as well. I'm sure that he'll have some very thoughtful suggestions for us, in addition to these. But the language in this bill is quite adequate, and you'll find that it serves the state's purpose in doing what we can to see to it that the ag bond situation does not occur a second time. And, for that reason, I invite you to take a look at the bill. You'll find that it does good things, and that it seeks to improve accountability. There is nothing untoward in this measure whatsoever and I invite your scrutiny of it, because it will stand that test. It deserves to be passed, and I urge you to do so this morning. With that, I would ask that the Clerk withdraw my motion.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Landis. Motion is withdrawn. Okay. We'll proceed with Final Reading then on LB 253E. Would all of the senators please return to their seats. While the senators are returning to their seats, I'd like to direct your attention to the south balcony. Guests of Senator Schmit today are 12 seniors from Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska High School with their teacher. Would you rise and be